

Rec'd PCT/PTO 24 AUG 2004

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Intellectual Property Law

10/505423

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June 15, 2004

International Bureau of WIPO
 34, chemin des Colombettes
 1211 Geneva 20
 Switzerland

Dear Sir/Madam:

Rc: International Application No. PCT/CA03/00263
International Filing Date: 25 February 2003 (25.02.2003)
Priority Date: 25 February 2002 (25.02.2002)
Title: VENDING MACHINE TRACKING SYSTEM
Applicant: Beaver Machine Corporation et al.
Authorized Officer: Katrin Sommermeyer
Our File: 675-232/MBE

STATEMENT UNDER ARTICLE 19(1)

This Statement under Article 19 is filed in response to the International Search Report dated April 19, 2004 and addresses only the second invention, recited in claims 15 and 16. Original claim 15 is hereby cancelled, and replaced by amended claim 15 presented herewith.

The amended claims more clearly distinguish over the references cited by the Examiner.

The International Searching Authority has cited four references as anticipating claims 15 and 16. The applicant respectfully disagrees. Claim 15 requires a dog having "on each side of the pivot an upstanding finger in the path of the coin," such that the dog moves in a 'see-saw' fashion. Claim 16 recites the feature of the dog locking into one or the other position by a spring-loaded ball.

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AMENDED CLAIMS 10/505423

[received by the International Bureau 15 June 2004 (15.06.04);
original claim 15 amended; remaining claims unchanged (1 page)]

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STATEMENT

12. The vendor of claim 10 wherein the vending event data comprises a code representing the type of merchandise being dispensed.
13. The vendor of claim 10 wherein the interface comprises

a dog disposed on a pivot, being biased to one of open and closed positions and having on each side of the pivot an upstanding finger in the path of the coin, and

a contact housing positioned with contacts facing a conductive one of the fingers,

whereby as the coin passes one finger it pushes the dog to the closed position to close a circuit and generate a count pulse in the tag, and as the coin passes the other finger it pushes the dog to the open position remote from the contacts.
14. The vendor of claim 13 wherein the dog is biased by a spring-loaded ball which settles into one of two notches under the force of a spring.
15. A switch for transmitting an electrical signal to a tracking tag associated with a rotary coin mechanism, comprising

a dog disposed on a pivot, being capable of being biased to each of open and closed positions and having on each side of the pivot an upstanding finger in the path of the coin, and

a contact housing positioned with contacts facing a conductive one of the fingers,

whereby as the coin passes one finger it pushes the dog to the closed position to close a circuit and generate a count pulse in the tag, and as the coin passes the other finger it pushes the dog to the open position remote from the contacts.